

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 14-17 are allowable.

Claims 11-20 have been canceled in favor of new claims 21-38. Allowable claims 14-17 have been re-written in independent form, as new claims 21, 25, 29, and 33, respectively, to include the features of their base claims. The features of claim 19 have been integrated with those of allowable claim 15 into new claim 37. Claims within each set of claims 22-24, 26-28, 30-32, and 34-36 recite the features of claims 12, 13, and 18, respectively, and each set depends from a different one of independent claims 21, 25, 29, and 33. Claim 38 recites the features of claim 20 and depends from independent claim 37.

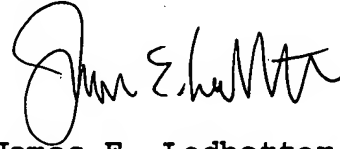
Accordingly, the allowable claims have been re-written in independent form and all other pending claims depend therefrom. Therefore, allowance of claims 21-38 is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone

the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 21, 2005
JEL/DWW/att

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